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THE

RANGE

GRAZING

RIDER

SERVICE

TRAINING THE TRAINERS

Beginning Monday, May 13, a special two-week course in foreman training was launched for men engaged in training and safety work within the Interior Department. Mr. Frank Cushman, Consultant in the Vocational Education Division of the United States Office of Education who is an authority on the subject of foreman training, is conducting these meetings with the cooperation of bureaus chiefs and others interested in the work.

On May 14, Director Rutledge addressed the group and explained that the Grazing Service is happy to be able to participate in the training program for three very good reasons which he described as "selfish reasons" for the enrollee, the employer, and the nation.

1. For the Enrollee--here is the enrollee's opportunity to learn many things and fit himself for a happy, profitable, civilian life after his camp days are over.
2. For the Employer (the technical service)--a well-trained, safe, and enthusiastic enrollee will accomplish more and better work.
3. For the Nation--this is a wonderful opportunity to conserve and rehabilitate our natural resources and our youth.

Mr. Rutledge explained that we must be taught or trained to do whatever we do well. To illustrate his point, he referred to the training season of a baseball team when months are spent learning how best to throw, or hit, or catch a baseball. It is our job to train the young men in the CCC camps in the best way to construct a reservoir or a fence, handle a truck or tractor, or do any of the many other tasks that come up in the course of construction of the project to which they have been assigned.

The objective of this training course and the field training courses which will follow is that every man in supervisory and facilitating positions understand the best methods of training.

Representatives of the Grazing Service attending these meetings include Messrs. McKay, Cook, Bromley, Prager, and Bevis of the Salt Lake City safety-training unit. Approximately 15 representatives from other bureaus in the Department complete the group.

UNIQUE GAVEL PRESENTED TO CONGRESSMAN TAYLOR

A gold-plated hammer symbolic of the more than 2,000 miles of fence constructed by the Grazing Service in Federal grazing districts was presented to Congressman Edward T. Taylor, author of the Taylor Grazing Act, by Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes, on May 10.

In presenting this gavel to Congressman Taylor on behalf of Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees in Grazing Service camps, Secretary Ickes said:

"Mr. Taylor, this gavel is unique and I hope that it may remain symbolic among your rich collection of gavels. From thousands of boys in the Civilian Conservation Corps who are doing their part in making the public ranges better comes this token of esteem and honor. An implement both useful and significant, this gold-plated hammer represents the millions of staples, the thousands of posts, the miles of fence that have been erected on the Federal range to facilitate the handling of livestock, protect the vital range resources, and stabilize the livestock industry which, after all, is the ultimate goal of the Taylor Grazing Act which you fostered.

"On behalf of the American youth who have found new purpose in life and who have so genuinely conducted themselves in the conservation program of the Grazing Service, I have the honor to present to you this symbol of their respect and esteem."

In accepting the gavel, Congressman Taylor said:

"I appreciate more than I can express this action of esteem and good will. It is an inspiration to me and I hope that it may be an inspiration to the thousands of young people throughout the country, that it may be a lesson to them that public service is worthwhile and that the people, after all, do appreciate it. If that objective is accomplished, I will certainly be richly repaid for all the efforts I have taken in this movement to conserve the public domain

"It is a great privilege and a great opportunity which I have had and especially it has been a wonderful gratification to me. I hope that the good will of all of you may go with me from now on until I reach the end of the trail down the 'western slope' of life."

The presentation was made in front of the special Grazing Service exhibit in the Art Gallery of the Interior Department. The entire staff of the Washington office of the Grazing Service and chiefs of other bureaus were invited to witness the ceremonies.

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RADIO TESTS MADE

A thorough test was recently given portable radio sets to determine their practicability as a means of communication between regional offices and CCC camps of the Grazing Service in hot, desert areas. The test was so satisfactory that plans are being made to enlarge the scope of this type of communication in the field.

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IMPROVEMENT IN WORK PROGRAM NOTED

Chief of Range Improvements Bud Molchon who recently returned from a field inspection trip in Nevada, Oregon, and Arizona, reported that he was particularly well pleased with the amount and quality of work being done by Grazing Service camps in the range country and the fine enthusiasm displayed by enrollees and administrative personnel in connection with the work they are doing. Bud also visited the offices at Billings and Salt Lake City. En route, he stopped at Fort Sam Houston where he had an opportunity to meet with Army officials at the Eighth Corps Area Headquarters and attend the district commander's staff meeting where many phases of the work program and camp life were discussed. The offices of the Ninth Corps Area were also contacted by Bud before his return to the Washington office.

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DIRECTOR RUTLEDGE ADDRESSES SCIENTIFIC GROUP

On May 16 Director Rutledge addressed the Eighth American Scientific Congress, convening in Washington between May 10 and 18, on "The Importance of Range Conservation to the National Welfare." A resume of his address will appear in the June issue of The Grazing Bulletin.

This organization, which serves as a medium for the exchange of scientific information of particular interest and importance to the governments and peoples of the Americas, dates from the first Latin American Scientific Congress held in Buenos Aires in April 1898. In 1908, the United States was invited to participate.

Among those participating in the Congress this year were representatives of the South American countries who were in Washington to observe the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Pan American Union.

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OUT OF THE MAIL BAG

New Mexico: Regional Grazier Dierking recently returned from the southern portion of the New Mexico region and reported an unusually fine crop of annual weeds of which alfilaria, California poppy, and verbena made up the principal species. Stockmen report the best spring rains in

many years. It is interesting to note that due to strong west winds, two valuable species of alfalfa and California poppy are gradually moving eastward and are now growing in areas where heretofore they were not to be found. At this time of the year this feed is invaluable for calving and lambing, and livestock are in excellent condition.

Oregon: Camp G-130, Buena Vista, reports a unique orientation program for their new enrollees who arrived April 8. The high light of this program was a talk given to the boys by Mr. John Witzel, pioneer rancher. Mr. Witzel is 86 years of age and has encountered many exciting experiences with the Indians and early settlers of this area. He stated that during his lifetime he has seen many changes in this range country brought about by drought and overgrazing. He told the boys he could remember when grass was almost knee high and grazing was excellent and that the enactment of the Taylor Grazing Act at an earlier date would have made the range far more valuable than it is today.

Camp G-130 also reports that keen interest is shown by the enrollees in their range management classes which are being conducted by the foremen of the camp. Discussions can be heard on the job and around camp concerning these lessons at almost any hour of the day.

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DEAD LINES

"Upon establishing Wyoming Grazing District No. 1, personnel of the Grazing Service was confronted with many range management problems, due to the fact that in early days there had been numerous conflicts between cattle and sheep interests, and these conflicts resulted in setting up certain "dead lines." These dead lines were located on draws or natural boundaries, and were established by cattlemen for the purpose of eliminating sheepmen from certain areas, and penalty for crossing such dead lines was TROUBLE.

"Dead lines in this district had been broken down prior to the enactment of the Taylor Grazing Act, but feeling still existed that certain areas should be used by cattlemen, and certain areas by sheepmen. This condition does not exist at the present time, as it was worked out through the advisory board system where there was equal representation of cattle and sheep operators, together with personnel of the Grazing Service. The problems of allotting Federal range was taken to the users themselves through a series of meetings, and at these meetings the users made a fair division of the Federal range through range line agreements, with Grazing Service officers acting as arbitrators." (--C. W. Griswold, Wyoming Grazing District No. 1)

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